MINE HAZARDS

A review of mine accidents clearly shows that other hazards confronting every citizen contribute far more than do explosives towards both the loss of life and serious accidents. Statistics released by the U. S. Bureau of Mines show that this specific danger has in a recently ending ten-year period caused the death of only one man in 4,279. Since one person in every 4,782 of the population of ten of our largest cities was killed by an automobile last year it may be seen that the average citizen runs practically as much risk of meeting an accidental death when walking the streets of his home town or riding along a country road, as does the miner who handles explosives daily.

There seems then to be little reason for the claim that handling explosives is a justifiable excuse for refusing insurance to miners except under abnormally high rates.